# Montana Newsletter

***Montana State Library***

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# News UPDATE

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October 1990 Update No. 16

**Calling all children's librarians and librarians who work with children:** you're needed to help plan Montana's first statewide summer reading program. The planning committee had its initial meeting October 6 at the Missoula Public Library with representation from public libraries in Missoula, Bozeman and Townsend, but we need members from other parts of the state. Several potential themes were chosen, and librarians will soon be polled on their preferences. With input and materials from committee members, the State Library will produce a 1991 summer reading program manual with masters for reproduction, program and craft ideas and tips for generating community interest and support. You are invited to help make this first statewide program a success. Call Cathy Siegner at 444-5353 for more information on how you can help.

**The Blaine County Library in Chinook wasn't the only Montana library** to receive the Carnegie Corporation's $500 matching grant to buy 36 children's videotapes. The Plains Public Library and the Chouteau County Free Library will also receive the grants, out of 1,200 libraries across the country that applied. The videotape sets, entitled "Quality Video for Youth," are valued at approximately $3,000 and should arrive at the libraries either late this month or early in November.

**Don't forget the Northern Rockies Computer Expo** being held at the Billings MetraPark from October 24-26 and co-sponsored by the State Library. Thursday, Oct. 25, will be a special library day, with sessions addressing local area networks, automation systems and managing technology and change, among other topics. These workshops are designed to apply to small- and medium-sized libraries. Regional vendors will demonstrate their products and services on Friday, October 26.

**Censorship attempts in Montana are increasing,** according to a panel discussion organized by the State Library and held during the Third Annual Cultural Congress September 14-16 in Bozeman. Panel participants described specific efforts to influence reading choices at their respective libraries. Moderated by State Librarian Richard Miller, participants on the panel included: Georgia Lomax, director of the Flathead County Library in Kalispell; Jim Heckel, director of the Great Falls Public Library; Janis Bruwelheide, Montana State University education professor; Della Stauber, Bozeman Junior High School librarian, and Kathy Kaya, MSU librarian. Both the panel and the Cultural Congress in general received media coverage across the state.

**Attention public libraries! The deadline to apply for fiscal 1991 LSCA Title VI (Library Literacy Program) grants** from the U.S. Department of Education is November 9. The maximum grant amount is $35,000. For more information, contact Title VI Program Officer Barbara Humes at 202-357-6376 or 202-219-1376. (Note: phone numbers at the U.S. Department of Education are all changing sometime in late October. The phone number for Serena Smith, the LSCA Title VI financial accounting representative, is now 202-401-0280.)

**The State Library is recruiting for a Regional Librarian for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.** This individual supervises and manages the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Applicants may apply in person or by mail at a local Job Service office or by mail to Mary Jane West at the State Library, 1515 E. 6th Ave., Helena, 59620. The application deadline is 5 p.m., Wednesday, November 21.

**Residents of St. Ignatius hope to break ground next June** on a community/school library center that would physically link the elementary and high schools. Fundraising spearheaded by local trustees and even local school children has begun, and businesses and foundations across the country are being asked to donate toward the facility's estimated $650,000 price tag.

**The Blue Ribbon Panel on Libraries at Risk** has been chosen and is meeting regularly at the State Library in Helena. Members are: Richard Miller, Montana State Librarian; Noreen Alldredge, dean of MSU's Renne Library; Henry McClernan, Montana Tech., Butte; Sidney Poole, Helena school librarian; Margaret Kingsland, Montana Committee for the Humanities director, Missoula; Royal Johnson, Billings businessman; Jim Nybo, Helena private consultant; Dick Dunn, librarian at the UM's Mansfield Library; Peggy Guthrie, Choteau; Judy Browning, deputy state attorney general, Helena; John Delano, Helena attorney, and Suzy Holt, medical librarian, Helena. The group plans to present its report on the current status and future needs of Montana libraries to the State Library Commission at its meeting in Helena on December 12.

**All six of the regional preconferences leading up to the Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services** have been held and were "enthusiastically successful," according to Conference Coordinator Bob Cooper. Delegates elected by their preconference constituencies will attend the Governor's Conference in Helena on January 6-8. Upcoming is the Native American Preconference Saturday, November 10, at 10 a.m. at the Lewis & Clark Public Library in Helena. Like the others, the Native American preconference will develop an issue agenda and elect four conference delegates. For more information about the Native American Preconference or the Governor's Conference, contact Bob Cooper, 1515 E. 6th Ave., Helena, 59620, 444-5350.

**The following meetings are scheduled for OCTOBER/NOVEMBER:**

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| **October** | **19** | **Blue Ribbon Panel on Libraries at Risk, Helena** |
| | **22** | **Collection Management Committee, Helena** |
| | **23** | **Federation Coordinators, Laurel** |
| | **24** | **State Library Commission, Laurel** |
| | **24-26** | **Computer Expo, Billings MetraPark** |
| | **31** | **Halloween** |
| **November** | **1** | **Governor's Conference Planning Committee, Helena** |
| | **2** | **Library Services Advisory Council, Helena** |
| | **3** | **Children's Literature Workshop, Paris Gibson Square, Great Falls** |
| | **6** | **Election Day Holiday** |
| | **10** | **Native American Preconference, Helena** |
| | **12** | **Veterans Day Holiday** |
| | **13** | **Blue Ribbon Panel on Libraries at Risk, Helena** |
| | **22-23** | **Thanksgiving Day Holiday** |

OCTOBER

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